

News of the Bahamas National Trust

Patrol Boat Donated for Land and Sea Parks

By Timothy Roberts

In order to ensure that park rules are adhered to in the Fowl Cay National Park and the Pelican Cays Land and Sea National Park, Bob and Gail Bardin, regular visitors to Abaco and The Bahamas, donated a 27-foot World Cat catamaran boat with two almost new engines to the Bahamas National Trust to facilitate patrol of the areas.

The Trust plans to use the generous gift in several ways, including patrolling, checking moorings and facilitating research and educational programs by transporting researchers and students to the area.

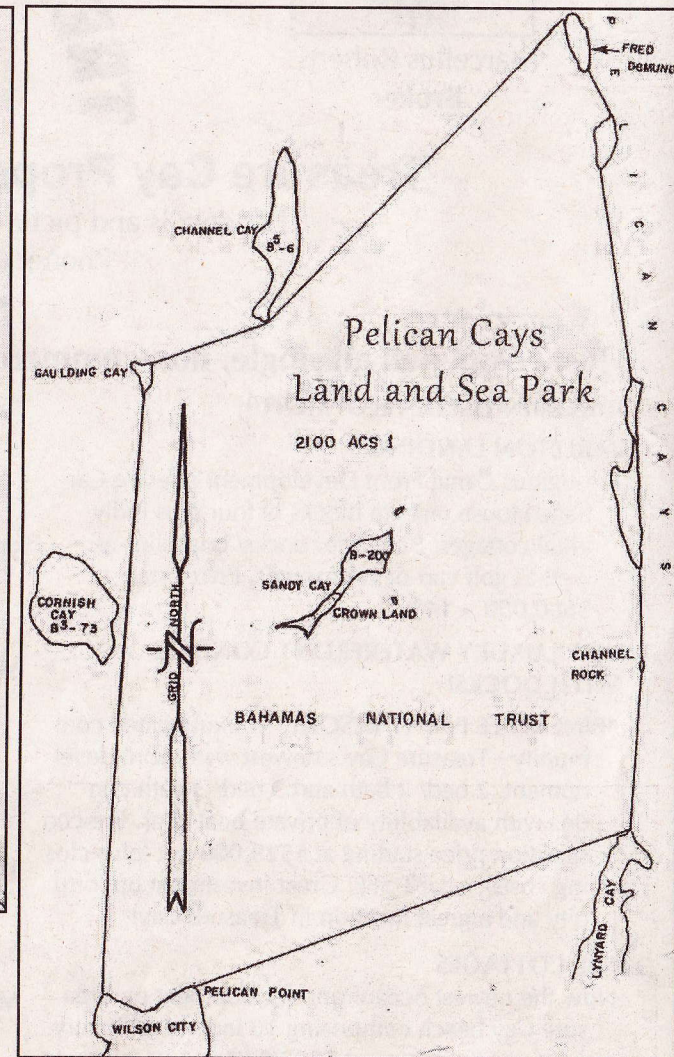
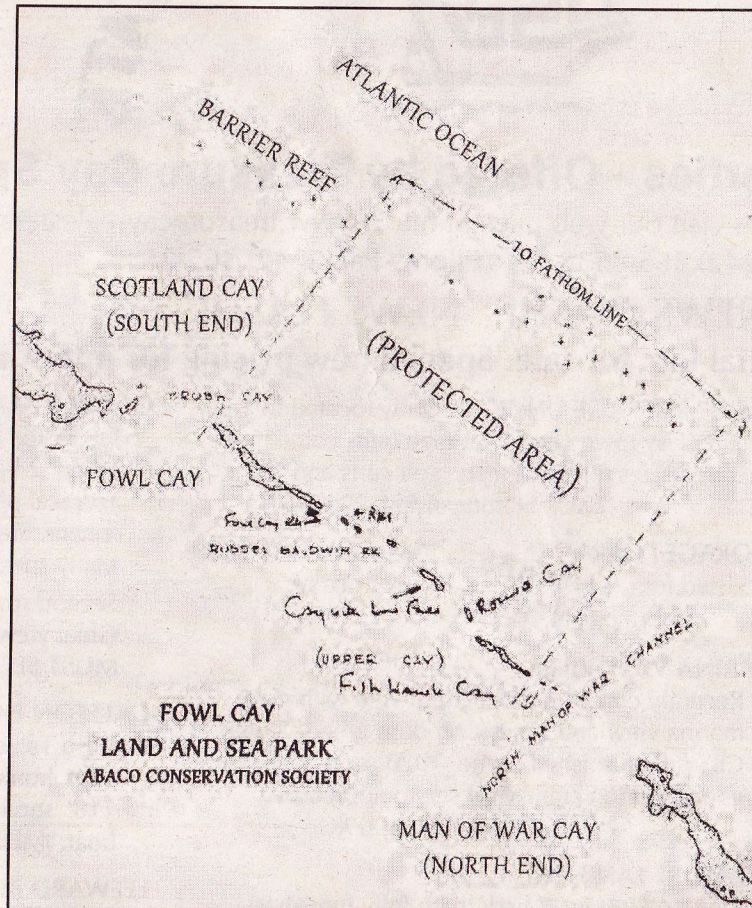
The boat was passed as seaworthy and the staff is now ready to start patrolling. The Trust owes much thanks to the donors as well as the Abaco community "for their assistance in preparing the boat for the mission that lies ahead."

The Trust acknowledges the help received from Lighthouse Marina, Conch Inn Marina, Abaco Outboards, the Outboard Shop, James Pleydell-Bouverie and Michael Albury.

The Fowl Cay National Park was established in 2009 and, like the Pelican Cays Land and Sea Park that was established in 1972, is a protected marine area. That means that it is illegal to hunt, trap, net, capture or remove any fish, turtle, crawfish, conch, whelk, coral or any marine and/or fishery resource in the park.

Anyone found breaking the law in these restricted areas, if convicted, can face a fine of up to \$500 and their boat along with any equipment used may be confiscated.

Abaco's two sea parks



The Bardins, residents of California, have for many years cruised through Abaco as well as through the Central and Southern Bahamas on their motor yacht Osprey.

For more information on the parks and reserves on Abaco or in The Bahamas, contact the BNT at 367-6310 or visit www.bnt.bs.